

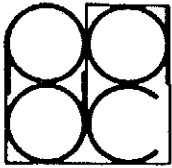
DC,
WASH,
357-

409-411 Seventh Street, NW
(Famous Shoes)
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-617

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127



PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

425 13TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

GENERAL CONSULTANTS

ANDERSON NOTTER/MARIANI
GENERAL PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
DEVROUX & PURNELL
ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS
DAVID MCLAREN HART & ASSOCIATES
PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
MONK DUNSTONE ASSOCIATES
COST ESTIMATING CONSULTANT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

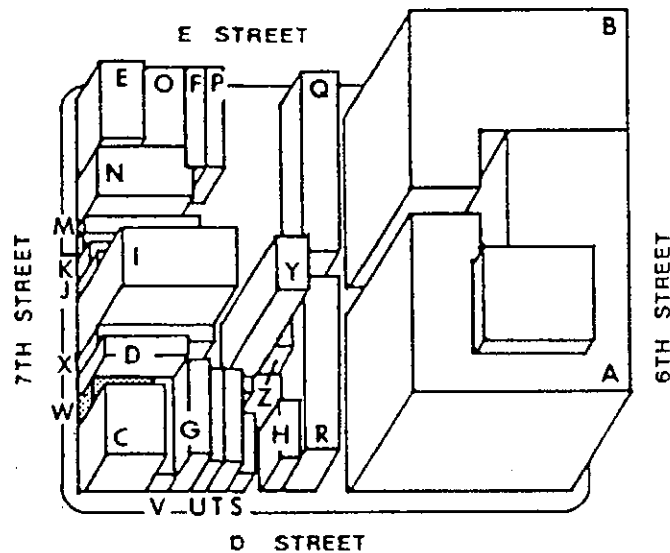
BUILDING DOCUMENTATION

HABS
DC,
WASH,
357-

409 and 411 Seventh Street, NW

(Famous Shoes)

Lot 818



This documentation was produced for mitigation purposes by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. Additional documentation exists for Square 457, within which this structure stands. For photographs, historical, and descriptive data on Square 457, see HABS No. DC-597.

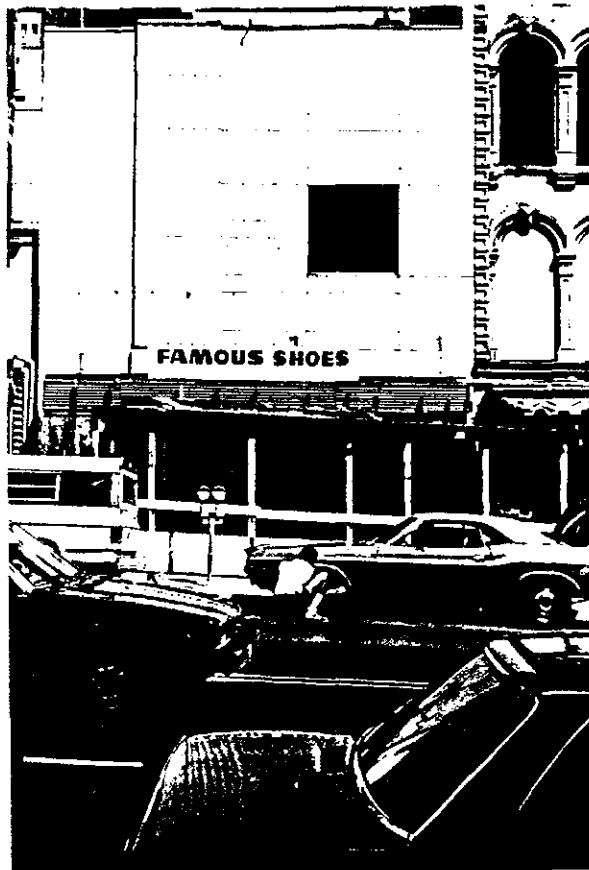
GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Originally constructed in 1883 (Permit no. 49, 7/12/1883), this two-story brick commercial building has a modern facade flush with its contiguous neighbors, the Crandell building and 415 Seventh Street. The building is twenty-five feet six inches wide, thirty-two feet high and sixty feet deep. The upper story of the modern facade is faced in beige precast concrete panels arranged in five vertical rows. The second row from the north projects a few inches and is vertically fluted. One-quarter inch flush joints articulate the flat plane horizontally into alternating wide and narrow bands. A square fixed window with a metal frame is located in the second vertical row from the right. The storefront, which projects approximately two feet, is of plate glass with slender metal frames and is capped by a band of fluted stainless steel. It is now boarded over. The interiors of the building are not accessible.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Though its facade is carefully organized, the building at 409-411 Seventh Street is out of scale with its surroundings. The facade's small size and minimally detailed flat surface stand in jarring contrast to its taller, richly modeled neighbors.

September 1979



SEVENTH STREET (WEST)
FACADE

Lot 9 (Sublots 818, 819)
409-411, 415 Seventh Street

Lot 9 is situated on the southwest quadrant of Square 457. The lot measures 50 feet along its Seventh Street frontage. As indicated by the 1919 Baist Plat Map, Lot 9 became subdivided into two sublots labeled 818 and 819.

Lot 9 (Sublot 818)
409-411 Seventh Street

1819.....According to the District of Columbia Tax Records, Lot 9 was assessed to Elizabeth Cox.

1824.....The proprietorship of Lot 9 was turned over to Thomas Levering and the lot was assessed \$907.00 for the ground and \$1600.00 for the improvements.

1832/33...Elizabeth Cox was assessed \$1775.00 for the lot.

1844.....The assessment still in the name of Elizabeth Cox dropped to \$1578.00.

1850

to

1858.....The City Directories lists J.W. Cochran, a tobacconist, as the resident of 411 Seventh Street.

1855.....Edward M. Drew, a tailor, was listed as the tenant of 409 Seventh Street.

1859.....Lot 9 was assessed in two parts. The southern portion was assessed to George W. Cochran for \$2905.00.

1864

to

1867.....A.W. Townshend, a watch and jewelry seller, was listed as the tenant of 409 Seventh Street in the City Directories.

1862

to

1867.....David Irving, a tobacconist, was listed in the City Directories as the tenant of 411 Seventh Street.

1870.....James Y. Davis was assessed for the southern portion of Lot 9 for \$2400.00.

1878/79...Lot 9 was assessed to Elizabeth Cullinan. The southern portion was assessed \$7645.00.

1880

to

1883.....The jeweler William Frederick was listed in the City Directories as the occupant of 409 Seventh Street.

1883

to

1890.....The City Directories list William H. Veerhoff, a paper hanger, as the tenant of 411 Seventh Street.

1883/84...The southern portion of Lot 9 was assessed \$7645.00 in the name of James Y. Davis.

1883.....A building permit was issued to 409-411 Seventh Street to erect a two story brick store with pressed brick (Permit No. 49; Architect: R.D. Fleming; Cost: \$5500.00).

1891.....Cella Hoffa was listed in the City Directories as operating a jewelry store at 409 Seventh Street.

1883

to

1892.....A jeweler, Frank Hoffa, was a tenant of 409 Seventh Street according to the City Directories.

1893/94...The Washington Tax Records indicate that the southern portion of Lot 9 was assessed \$9939.00 to Charles P. Lizberman and the improvements were assessed \$3500.00.

1899/

1900.....The southern portion of Lot 9 was assessed to Mary W. Curry for \$9939.00 with the improvements valued at \$2600.00.

1901

to

1906.....The City Directories lists the Acme Tailoring Company as the occupant of 409 Seventh Street.

1904.....A building permit dated February 10 was issued to make interior renovations, to install new store windows, to remove dividing partitions between stores, install I-beams, and to install a new stairway (Permit No. 1129; Cost \$1100.00).

1906.....A February 20th building permit was issued to 409-411 Seventh Street to construct projecting show windows, to remove the front stairway and to cut an opening in the front wall.

On March 1 of the same year a permit was issued to install show windows, to remove the front stairway and fill in well hole, and to cut an archway in the north wall (Permit No. 2216; Architect: W.S. Plazer, Builder: W.H. Childs; Cost: \$700.00).

1908

to

1917.....The City Directories list the Mayer Clothing Company as the occupant of 409 to 415 Seventh Street.

1918.....A building permit was issued on December 16th to reduce the store window front (Permit No. 1692; Architect/Builder: Donally; Cost: \$100.00).

1924

to

1929.....Edward L. Kneisi, a leather goods dealer, was listed in the City Directories as the tenant of 409 Seventh Street.

1929.....A building permit was issued to extend a vault beneath the sidewalk on August 28 (Permit No. 126725).

1930

to

1956.....The City Directories list the Kay Jewelry Store as the occupant of 409-411 Seventh Street.

1935.....A July 3 building permit authorized the installation of a refrigeration system in the building (Permit No. 182,084; Cost: \$1500.00).

1962

to

1981.....The City Directories list the Famous Shoe Store as the occupant of the building.

SOURCES

Baist Real Estate Atlas

Bastert and Enthoffer Plat Maps

Boyd's City Directories

District of Columbia Building Permits

District of Columbia General Assessment Records

District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds

District of Columbia Surveyor's Office Records

District of Columbia Tax Records

Hopkins Real Estate Atlas

Polk's City Directories

Property Map for Downtown Urban Renewal Area for District of Columbia Redevelopment
Land Agency

Sanborn Insurance Map